DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES:

From: Samuel Klaus

Subject: JIOA

Colonel Ford called on me this afternoon. He presented, in the course of the conversation, the idea that we should permit all the scientists in Germany to come over on an expanded PAPERCLIP program, handling all immigration questions later. He said that this program had been presented already by him to General Chambers and by General Chambers, presumably, to the Secretary of War who had indicated approval.

I told him that this was just what we had been proposing since the very first meeting of JIOA.

He said that he would like the State Department to provide short cuts for immigration and talked about waiver visas and the like. He seemed to be confused on this subject; I pointed out that visas were not waived; that where there was pre-examination in agreement with the Department of Justice, it was still necessary to appear before a consul; that Germans employed in the Civil Service would be entitled to thirty days annual leave, part of which could be spent without injuring the Government's work in obtaining the necessary visa, either in Canada or in Germany, and that these cases were not emergency cases, such as cancer operations and the like. I told him that we could wait until the cases arose before deciding on the methods of obtaining visas which might have to be considered individually.

He proposed that the individuals brought over be divided up on the basis of pre-eminence, acceptability for immigration, etc. I told him that that was an excellent idea and that, however, the Department would expect--if I was accurately reflecting the opinion of the men in the Department concerned with this subject--a much more thoroughgoing and effective CIC investigation than had been conducted. I tried to emphasize as strongly as

possible

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possible the supreme importance which we placed on the background investigations of underground movements, military resurgence, and the like, and pointed out that the usual CIC investigation of the individuals themselves, without reference to a coordinated investigation of much broader character, would not be acceptable.

Colonel Ford showed me some correspondence involving a man named Hans Meyer, now in the United States in custody, who wished an immigration visa and produced a French document certifying that he had been in a concentration camp for political reasons; I took this occasion to point out to Colonel Ford the necessity for coordinating individual applications with the Commerce and Army and Navy programs, and suggested that this item be referred to the Department of Commerce.

The conversation ended on a note of agreement that denial should be accomplished immediately (I pointed out and he agreed that this was entirely a program between the military Services and the Attorney General and that there were some difficult legal problems connected with it), and that immigration should be handled carefully thereafter. We agreed that any attempts by individual firms to contact individual specialists should be the responsibility of the Department of Commerce after preliminary screening and investigation by CIC.

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